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ZNR UUUUU ZZH
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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO RUCNDT/USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE 0572
INFO RUEHLB/AMEMBASSY BEIRUT IMMEDIATE 7807

UNCLAS STATE 014281

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E.O. 12958: N/A
TAGS: [UNSC](#) [PTER](#) [PREL](#) [SY](#) [LE](#)
SUBJECT: SPECIAL TRIBUNAL FOR LEBANON: GUIDANCE FOR
MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

REF: USUN 117

(SBU) This cable is in response to Post's request in reftel for instructions on signing side understandings with France, Germany, the Netherlands and the UK concerning Special Tribunal for Lebanon Management Committee decisions. Although Department continues to have reservations regarding the sufficiency of the side letter to protect U.S. interests, post may agree to the following text:

Begin Text.

The representatives of the governments of France, Germany, the Netherlands, the United Kingdom, and the United States of America are pleased that Terms of Reference for the Management Committee for the Special Tribunal for Lebanon have been completed, and look to the Management Committee to play an important role in the efforts of the Tribunal to operate efficiently, effectively, and accountable. They commit to achieve consensus among themselves on a common position for all decisions before the Management Committee and to cast their votes accordingly. They highlight the importance of supporting the Secretary-General's efforts for the establishment of the Tribunal in a timely manner, as a means to put an end to impunity and deter further assassinations in Lebanon.

End text.
RICE